

LEGISLATIVE BILL 243

Approved by the Governor May 7, 2013

Introduced by Howard, 9.

FOR AN ACT relating to the Nurse Practitioner Practice Act; to amend section 38-2315, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012; to redefine nurse practitioner practice; and to repeal the original section.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 38-2315, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012, is amended to read:

38-2315 (1) A nurse practitioner may provide health care services within specialty areas. A nurse practitioner shall function by establishing collaborative, consultative, and referral networks as appropriate with other health care professionals. Patients who require care beyond the scope of practice of a nurse practitioner shall be referred to an appropriate health care provider.

(2) Nurse practitioner practice means health promotion, health supervision, illness prevention and diagnosis, treatment, and management of common health problems and acute and chronic conditions, including:

(a) Assessing patients, ordering diagnostic tests and therapeutic treatments, synthesizing and analyzing data, and applying advanced nursing principles;

(b) Dispensing, incident to practice only, sample medications which are provided by the manufacturer and are provided at no charge to the patient; and

(c) Prescribing therapeutic measures and medications relating to health conditions within the scope of practice. Any limitation on the prescribing authority of the nurse practitioner for controlled substances listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall be recorded in the integrated practice agreement established pursuant to section 38-2310.

(3) A nurse practitioner who has proof of a current certification from an approved certification program in a psychiatric or mental health specialty may manage the care of patients committed under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act. Patients who require care beyond the scope of practice of a nurse practitioner who has proof of a current certification from an approved certification program in a psychiatric or mental health specialty shall be referred to an appropriate health care provider.

(4) A nurse practitioner may pronounce death and may complete and sign death certificates and any other forms if such acts are within the scope of practice of the nurse practitioner and are not otherwise prohibited by law.

Sec. 2. Original section 38-2315, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012, is repealed.